

# Indiana State Sentinel.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 1, 1850.

INDIANAPOLIS, MARCH 7, 1850.

## Our Terms.

The following will hereafter be the permanent terms of the Weekly Indiana State Sentinel:

One copy, one year, \$2.00  
Three copies, one year, \$5.00  
Five copies, one year, \$8.00  
One copy during the session, .50  
Ten copies, in clubs, one year, \$15.00

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(Published three times a week during the session.)  
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All postmasters are requested to act as agents, and as such, by a recent decision of the department, they are authorized to frank letters for the benefit of subscribers.

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To prevent confusion and to save time, we state our terms for advertising Patent Medicines, viz:

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For insertions in the Weekly continuously, double the above price.  
Cuts, when agreed to be inserted, will be charged double the above price. Extra lines of Nonpareil, or 250 ems, count a square.

## To Correspondents.

P. R. Franklin. Your name has been duly enrolled on the list of donors.

J. S. Little Blue. Your request shall be religiously observed by us. We can't wait for the P. O. Department, under its present miserable management.

## They are Coming.

Besides a number of single subscribers, (a receipt of the paper by whom will be a sufficient acknowledgment of having received their letters and remittances,) we have this week to acknowledge our obligations to our friend E. E. of Alexandria, Madison county, for a club of ten; to W. D. R. Moscow; to J. Q. D. Gosport, for ten; (your request will be attended to.)—E. A. P. M. Matamoros. Your letter with three subscribers, misdirected to the Journal, has been handed to us by the editor, and due entries made of the same. We have some letters later relative to the Journal and its price, which we shall notice in our next.

The State Sentinel seems to have more correspondents upon subjects connected with calling a Convention to amend our State Constitution, than any of our exchanges. This is very right, for every question should be freely and fully discussed, that we may have the best Constitution in the Union.

We wish we could induce more gentlemen in this quarter to turn their attention to such things. If they let things go by default and the Constitution should be very objectionable, they would then have no right to complain. Why don't you write?—Wabash Express.

Our paper has on hand at least an hundred columns of matter relative to the Constitution, and every day we are accumulating more, both original and selected. We shall present this matter to our readers as rapidly as we can, without excluding other matter of general interest, which it is necessary to publish to keep up with the general progress of things, moral, social and political.

Many people seem to think it a very easy thing to fix the abstract propositions necessary to a Constitution, and apparently overlook the fact, that a single sentence, may be of infinite consequence, when we come to legislate under it. For this reason it is necessary to discuss every proposition in detail, so that its full bearing and effect may be appreciated.

Something has been said about the legislative Assembly, and yet the subject is not half exhausted. The Banking question has been hardly alluded to, except by the Lafayette papers, and by our correspondent "Switzerland." Nothing radical has been said about the administration of the law, though we suspect, from what a correspondent of the Express says, that a few "small rats."

By the way, this correspondent seems to think that the Convention has not a right to make a new Constitution, but only to half-side and heel-lap the old one, according to terms prescribed by act of the General Assembly! Has he read what our correspondent "S. S." (of the judiciary department), has said touching the powers of the Convention? What is the difference between "amending" and "making anew?" It would puzzle a Philadelphia, if not a Terre Haute lawyer, to tell!

The Convention will have power to uphold, overturn and construct just as they please,—and if a majority of the people afterwards approve of the result of their labor, whether it be good or bad,—the supreme law of the State will be established. There is but one limit and only one,—the requisition of some sort of republicanism, as prescribed, very indefinitely, by the Constitution of the United States. The Convention might, if it pleased, amend our constitution by adopting the old Royal Charter of Rhode Island, which led to the Dorr Rebellion, as the whigs consider it to this day!

This cannot successfully be disputed, and it shows the necessity, of which our Whig friend of the Express seems to be conscious, that every important measure should be thoroughly discussed beforehand. This, not only that the right may be established,—but as a measure of prudence and sound policy,—so that we may escape the bad fix which has overtaken the Kentuckians, who are now, to a very considerable extent proposing to repudiate a new constitution made in haste, to be repented of at leisure, or to be rejected as an abortion.

The city charter of Indianapolis has been so amended, that no one is permitted to vote except he has paid "a corporate tax for the next year preceding his vote."—Wabash Express.

And we suppose that not twenty-five citizens of Indianapolis are aware of the above fact. The truth is, that under past legislative rules, a shrewd man could get almost any law passed which pleased him. We know very well, that we have scribbled several good laws in our counting room, which, handed to the right kind of member, we had no difficulty in running through. All these were good, in our opinion; if we had not been very honest, we might perhaps have had bad laws passed just as easily. In this telling tales out of school! We don't know, nor do we care. The Constitution should fix things so that laws should not be passed without due deliberation. We shall recur to this subject again in good time.

THOSE ISLAND.—The Pa. Ledger's Washington writer learns "that Tigre Island is going to be surrendered first by England to the United States, and then by the United States to Honduras, as if Tigre Island were a pocket-book which Honduras had dropped, and the United States picked up, without the knowledge and permission of the British justice-of-the-peace, and having possessed himself of the stolen article returns it to the thief, and orders him to restore it to its lawful owner. This, some writers in Mr. Clayton's employ call straightforward diplomacy; this is a miserable attempt to save appearances, while he seems to be quite ready to sacrifice the substance of things."

## For the State Sentinel.

### The New Constitution.

No. VII.

It is not denied that all the questions that belong to the adoption of a new Constitution are important; but some of them are of more importance than others. As previously stated, there will be but little difference of opinion about some questions, while others will be warmly discussed and contested. Among the latter will be the questions of Banking, the Judiciary, the powers to be granted or withheld from the Legislature, the raising and disbursing the State finances, and the Common Schools. Upon the subject of Banking, as before remarked, there will be a very great diversity of opinion, and much feeling; and, probably, three parties, at least. One party, and by no means a small one, will be opposed to all banks of circulation; another party will be in favor of a well regulated system of banking, and a third party, headed by all the present banking interests of the State, will make "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," for the present system, with all its facilities for abuses, injustices, and swindling.

The writer of this article believes all banks of circulation to be evils; and were the question left to his single vote, would prohibit them. But in the present state of things, being in doubt about the opinions of a majority of the voters on the subject, he would support a well digested free banking system, to be submitted to the people. The system should secure the bill holders beyond the possibility of loss; and it should be general, so as to require no special charters, or legislation of any sort, to enable any person or persons complying with its requisitions, to establish banks and exercise banking powers.

In my next I propose to examine some of the injustice and evil workings of the present system.

## SWITZERLAND.

### Gen. Lane—Whig vs. Whig.

"We notice from several of our exchanges that the unfettered energy of Indiana are putting forth their utmost energy to improve the minds of the good people of our State, that Gen. Lane, present Governor of Oregon Territory, is just the man to be the candidate of that party for the Presidency in 1852. Why the people of this, or any other State should countenance the idea of placing Gen. Lane in nomination before the American people, for election to the highest official station within their gift, is more than we are able to conjecture. Certain it is, that there are persons connected with that party who are possessed of more ample qualifications and an equal amount of political integrity, whose nomination and election might be creditable to the party, or perhaps, to the whole people.

Our reason for assigning for this step on the part of our democratic friends, is that of rendering their candidate available whether he is qualified to hold the reins of government, and discharge the duties of Chief Magistrate to the people of the whole people, or not."—Delphi Herald, Whig.

From this one whig—how near another:

"Though we do not politically sympathize with this movement, yet we would be pleased to see the nomination of the party conferred upon General Lane. The north-western States now compose an important part of the Union, and Indiana is the second State in the north-west. It is therefore due to the interests of this important section of the Union, that her claims to a just share of the honors and patronage of the government be urged by the members of both parties. We are therefore disposed to view this movement as an effort to present the claims of the north-west, and of Indiana in particular, to the Presidential mansion, and so far as the procuring of the nomination is concerned, which is a little partisan, we wish it abundant success.

"Regarding General Lane and his qualifications, we have but little to say. If he should procure the nomination, we expect to oppose his election. By his own doing the Mexican war, he has done honor to himself and his State; and what fame he has we are disposed to claim and guard, as the heritage of the State. He is a man of decided ability and will not dishonor any station to which he may be called. Though he is a little partisan, (as his letter written on his departure for Oregon proves) yet we would be pleased to see his nomination for the coming year, when we expect to put forth a candidate by whom the General will think it an honor to be beaten."—Perryville Eagle, Whig.

It seems that General Lane is well pleased with the Oregon country and can make money there. This being the case, his friends in this State will certainly do him great injustice if they bring him back to run for the office of President of the United States—a station to which he can never attain and one which he is totally incompetent to fill. We take the General to be a man of too much good common sense to suffer himself to be made a tool of by a few indiscreet, weak-minded and designing political friends.—Salem News.

Oh! Oh! Very rich to come from one who supported Taylor, the most important and incompetent man who has ever sat, or who probably ever will sit, in the Presidential chair!

"Too much sense," Gen. Lane has, has he, to be made a tool of? Well, that's a great deal more than can be said of Taylor. He is nothing but a tool, and depends altogether upon his advisers, without regard to the "rest of mankind."

It is something in Gen. Lane's favor, that even his enemies give him credit for "good common sense." Take one of our "old hats," at present, Mr. Deal!

THE GRAND JURY SYSTEM.—"P." in the Indiana State Sentinel of the 23d inst. is advocating the abolition of the Grand Jury System, by the Convention, to revise the Constitution which is to meet in Oct. next. If he had been acquainted with the Constitution of the United States the trouble of writing such an article might have been saved. A part of the 5th section of the Amendment of the U. S. Constitution, reads as follows:

"No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment by a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger."

The Convention cannot abolish the Grand Jury system, without depriving the State of the power to punish criminals, which it is hoped friend P. will not advocate.—Richmond Palladium.

The dogmatism of the Whig editors of Wayne county, is a little amusing. What has our friend "P." to say in answer to the Palladium?

"A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune, thus prefaces a long exposure of the corruption of the Whig administration:

"The Government that has succeeded Polk and Marcy, do not show a disposition to be more frugal with the money of the country than their predecessors. Patrons in their northern arm of power."

This is a pretty honest confession to come from a whig, and is a fine commentary upon the pretended "honesty" of Taylor and his supporters. "Patrons" are their northern arm of power."

COUNTERFEIT MONEY.—The Treasurer of Ohio has made a statement to the Legislature, by which it appears that there are over twenty-two thousand dollars of counterfeit paper money in the Treasury, which had been received for taxes and dues to the State. The bursting of some of the banks in which were State deposits, has added further to the losses of the State. We regret that the loss of the State has not been ten times as great. In that case a remedy might have been demanded by the people.

The Rushville Jacksonian has been enlarged by the editor, Mr. Hargitt, and now ranks among the best looking papers of the State. We hope the enterprise of Mr. H. will be amply rewarded.

We shall endeavor to publish the speech of Dr. Fitch, on the slave question, in our next. It is creditable alike to the author and to this State.

The post office at Wheeling, Va., was robbed a few days since of a large number of letters and packages. The sum lost, in money, drafts, &c., is upwards of ten thousand dollars. O Whiggery!

ANOTHER EDITOR IN CONGRESS.—Col. J. W. Jackson, who has been elected to Congress, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Hon. Thos. Butler King, is one of the Editors of the Savannah Georgian.

## From the Advocate of Progression, Whitehall, N. Y.

### The Western Poetess.

To us there are many pleasing associations connected with the West. In happy childhood days we roamed its wildwood haunts and traversed the banks of its meandering brooks in quest of sport and recreation; and now that manhood has set on o'er us, and distance placed a barrier between those loved grounds and our present enjoyment, we take pleasure in noting the gradual swell of western thought. Literary minds are not alone confined to the East. Now and then a trifling germ merges into existence in the far-off regions of sundown whose intellectual odors savor of a sweeter rare and unusual. But seldom have we met with one possessed of natural talents equal to those of Mrs. SARAH T. BROWN, of Indianapolis, Indiana, who probably possesses more poetic taste and genius than many authors who have attained to a much more extended reputation. With her advantages few indeed would have arrived to the position she now occupies in the literary world. As an example of her beautiful diction, simplicity and purity of thought, we offer the following fugitive from her numerous equally beautiful productions:

### The Flower and the Starlight.

From its home on high, in a gentle flower,  
That bloomed in a lovely grove,  
The starlight came, at twilight hour,  
And whispered a tale of love.

Then the blossom's heart, as it still and cold,  
Grew warm to its silent core,  
And gave out perfume, from its luscious fold,  
It never exhaled before.

And the blossom slept, thro' the summer night,  
In the smile of the angel ray,  
But the more aware with its glow light,  
And the soft one stole away.

Then the zephyr wooed, as he wandered by  
Where the gentle flower grew,  
But she was not to be won by his sigh,  
Her heart to his love was true.

And the sunbeam came, with a lover's art,  
To caress the flower in vain;  
She folded her sweet in his thrilling heat  
Till the starlight came again.

Here is beauty and originality combined. None, we believe, has been so successful as Mrs. BROWN's talents without acknowledging their superiority. If modern authors generally possessed such winning gifts, the bards of yore would lose much of their hold on the affections of the present generation. H.

The Cincinnati Enquirer shows up the dirty work of a Northern Whig Douglasse, as follows:

What such a self-inflicted hamburger as Solon Robinson may say, or the slanders he may utter against the north, while endeavoring to gall Southerners out of their money,—if that is the end he has in view,—is of no consequence further, than as it may tend to mislead and prejudice the South against the North. It is well that the course of the gentleman should be understood at home, so that he may win a due measure of public contempt.

A WHIG TRICK.—One SOLON ROBINSON, who is traveling through the Southern States, soliciting subscriptions for some work in which he is interested, is addressing letters through the Charleston (S. C.) Mercury, to his "Northern Brethren," on the folly of their opposition to the further extension of slavery. The Morrisstown Jerseyman (Whig) refers to these letters and speaks of them as being addressed by Robinson to his "Northern Democratic Brethren." We have an indistinct recollection that one SOLON ROBINSON, during the last Presidential election, an occasional correspondent from Indiana of the Gazette of this city, and in his letters went it strong for TAYLOR and FILLMORE.

Our neighbor will correct us if we are wrong.—We believe we are right in saying that ROBINSON is a Whig, and "nothing shorter." Mr. ROBINSON then instead of addressing his Democratic brethren, must be addressing his "Northern Brethren," the South being the case, and the Jerseyman have drawn an imaginary picture of the Democrats, we advise it to revise the following part of it and make the appropriate correction, by making his Whig friends occupy the position it has assumed for Democrats.

Solon Robinson, a writer of much merit, puts a few questions to his "Northern Democratic Brethren" through the columns of the Charleston Mercury, which they will never answer correctly. His greatest inquiry is: "They have no star longer to guide them but error. Having abandoned their old Jacksonian principles, they are wandering about like sheep without a shepherd, and as a last resort to retrieve their loss of office, they throw up their caps and shout, 'down with Southern slavery'—teal the stars from the Southern sky." Now, upon this matter, they can enjoy freedom; if that cannot be done, compel these Southern nabobs to set them free, when they can run riot and destroy the property of the whites, and retain the enormities of St. Domingo's.

PLANK ROUTE.—Papers from all parts of the State, contain accounts of movements of the people in favor of plank roads. We are glad to see the people well awake on a subject of such great interest to all. The Parke County Whig of the 1st, is nearly filled with matter of this kind. At a meeting held at Portland Mills, the Indianapolis and Springfield, Ills., Plank Road Company was organized, and effective steps taken for speedy operations. At a meeting in Rockville on Monday more than twenty-two thousand dollars was subscribed, as a beginning. Well done Parke! Putnam and Hendricks will next move, and they will look to Marion for aid. Can we do anything? We hope so.

Will Henry county do anything towards filling the gap in the Central Plank Road between Hancock and Wayne. They will find it more profitable than to fool away time on any rail road project. There are now twelve miles of cutting lumber for the road outside of Henry. Will they wake up over there?

We refer the reader to a Washington letter, touching the speech of Col. WILLIAM H. BISSELL, of Illinois. We have read the whole of it, as reported in the Washington Globe, and shall publish it in full as soon as we can. We think Mr. B. most profoundly, not only for his noble vindication of the north against the assaults of the Disunionists, but especially as an Indian, for his generous vindication of the Indiana volunteers at Buena Vista. When our people come to read his speech, they will feel as much admiration and gratitude towards him as we now do.

General Cass, in a late speech, said that before he penned the Nicholson letter, he had a conversation with Judge McLean, who concurred with him in opinion, that the Wilnot Proviso was unconstitutional. What does our neighbor of the State Journal say to this? When Cass was a candidate, and while Benton in Missouri was denouncing "goss' wool," our neighbor was very solicitous about the Wilnot Proviso. He was sincere then, or has Mr. Cass converted him? He can change from very easily, and so can most whigs.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS.—A memorial to Congress is now in circulation in Philadelphia, praying Congress to grant a fee simple right to Tigre Island, in the Pacific ocean, to all such persons who are dissatisfied with the Union. They are to take all the rogues now in the penitentiary and almshouses with them. The Sun says that the memorial is being numerously signed.

WAYNE COUNTY.—The Cambridge Revueille of the 2d inst., states that it is informed that the Commissioners of Wayne county have resolved to subscribe \$100,000 in the Terre Haute and Richmond Railroad, to be expended within the limits of the county.

Mrs. FOGG will give another concert this evening, which is understood to be the last. We hope she will have a large audience, for we are assured that she is in all respects deserving of a liberal patronage.

OHIO.—The Legislature, on the 25th, elected Henry W. King (free soilist) Secretary of State, on the 6th ballot. Blair, whig, was re-elected Treasurer.

DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION.—There are 48 suits for divorce, pending before a single court in Boston!

## CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28, 1850.

SENATE.—Mr. Bell spoke on a series of resolutions offered, creating a new slave State out of a portion of Texas. He thought that would satisfy the South, and be the end of slavery extension. He spoke in favor of admitting California into the Union as a free State, and was moderate throughout. The resolutions were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

[It was stated that Mr. C. Houston is still weak. He has written his reply to Mr. Clay's resolutions, and it will be read on Monday.]

Mr. Clay's resolutions were then taken up. Mr. Rusk resumed and concluded his speech. He took Southern grounds and opposed the Wilnot Proviso.

The Senate then adjourned, with the understanding that to-morrow be spent in Executive Session.

HOUSE.—Mr. Day's resolutions for the admission of California into the Union with her present Constitution, were ordered to be printed.

The Bill ordering the Secretary of the Navy to purchase American Water-rotted Hemp alone, for the use of the Navy, when equal to Foreign, was discussed and passed over.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole and took up the President's California Message.

The discussion was continued till adjournment. Mr. Parker recommended a conciliatory course. He hoped Northern and Southern gentlemen would become cemented in the bonds of friendship. It was the only way in which the existing question could be settled.

Mr. Clay continued, at some length in vindication of his own course. In reply to Mr. Cass, he said that the constitution put by that gentleman in view, which had never been put up by his own party. In the State of Alabama, a distinguished gentleman (Mr. Yancy) was read out of the Democratic party, because he put the constitution upon the Nicholson letter which the Senator himself now gave it.

Mr. Davis, of Miss., following, denying that he had charged the Senator from Missouri with inconsistency, and saying he always understood his Nicholson letter just as he had now explained it, and upon that ground had refused to support him, thus incurring the censure of his own political friends.

Mr. Rogers made several remarks in relation to the observations in relation to the intercourse between Mr. Benton and Mr. Clay. In the course of his remarks he suggested to Mr. Clay that there was inconsistency in his position, when he excited debate, which had the appearance of menace. He also alluded to a speech made by that Senator, eleven years ago, in which he said that certain acts, if persisted in, would destroy the Union, and he would be glad to every freeman to remark upon the public acts of a public man.

Mr. Clay, (interposing) Certainly, but not upon my private intercourse.

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